



Crop Progress and Condition

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Agricultural News: Days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, March 25th were 2.3. The month of March had abnormal weather patterns bringing a mix of rain, snow, and ice. Field conditions are muddy. Farming activities for the month included calving, lambing, and pruning fruit trees.

SOIL MOISTURE and SUPPLIES for week ending 03/25/18

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	-	9	71	20
Subsoil	1	7	83	9
Hay & Roughage	-	7	85	8
Feed grain	-	12	88	-

-Represents zero.

CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 03/25/18

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Winter Wheat	-	1	36	54	9
Pasture	-	16	37	41	6
Cattle & Calves	-	2	25	67	6
Sheep & Lambs	-	2	22	71	5

- Represents zero.

LIVESTOCK PROGRESS for week ending 03/25/18

Livestock Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Calved	59	-	55	-
Lambled	64	-	60	-

- Represents data not available.

March Summary of Weather and Agricultural Conditions February 26 - March 25, 2018

March weather was mostly on the cooler side with wintry conditions. Temperatures were warmest during the first half of the week ending **March 4th**, when many lowland locations eclipsed 60 degrees. The second half of the week ended up much cooler, with highs generally in the 30s and 40s. Overnight lows dipped below freezing most nights. For the week, temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below average at Bluefield to 4 degrees above average at Clarksburg and Martinsburg. Williamson, Charleston, and Martinsburg had the highest recorded temperature of 65 degrees. Terra Alta had the lowest recorded temperature of 14 degrees. The state average temperature was 39 degrees. High pressure dominated early and late in the week with generally dry conditions. In between, a storm system affected the Eastern United States, dropping between a third and three-quarters of an inch of rainfall to most of the State. Terra Alta had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.80 of an inch. Huntington had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.22 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 0.55 of an inch.

Temperatures generally stayed below average the week ending **March 11th** with the exception of one warmer day where Western lowland temperatures reached into the 50's to near 60 degrees. Overnight low temperatures dipped below freezing at all sites at least twice, with many sites reaching below freezing every overnight period of the week. All sites were 5 to 8 degrees below average for the week. Huntington had the highest recorded temperature of 61 degrees. Terra Alta had the lowest recorded temperature of 13 degrees. The state average temperature was 34 degrees. The weather pattern was very active with a couple of large-scale storm systems moving through the area during the week bringing precipitation and cooler temperatures. Pineville had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 1.07 inches. Moorefield had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.03 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 0.39 of an inch.

For the week ending **March 18th**, temperatures stayed and remained below average similarly to the previous week. Most stations were seven to nine degrees below normal. High temperatures barely reached the 60s and the low temperatures dropped into the 20s and teens statewide. Bluefield and Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 63 degrees. Bluefield had the lowest recorded temperature of 14 degrees. The state average temperature was 34 degrees. The weather pattern remained busy, but dried up somewhat. Nearly all stations reported below normal precipitation amounts. The only station to exceed average was Bluefield. Marlinton had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 1.22 inches. Parkersburg and Martinsburg had the lowest with zero recorded precipitation. The state average precipitation was 0.36 of an inch.

The week ending **March 25th** was the third week straight with statewide temperatures below average. These temperatures averaged about 10 degrees below normal. High temperatures for the week reached the 60s for most locations. The low temperatures dropped into the teens and 20s. Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 68 degrees. Elkins had the lowest recorded temperature of 11 degrees. The state average temperature was 35 degrees. With two weather systems passing over the State during the week, precipitation amounts were higher than average nearly statewide. Early in the week a Nor'easter dropped precipitation statewide, with snow falling throughout most of the State, especially in the Northern mountains. Late in the week, a strong system dropped a great amount of precipitation in the Southern and Southeastern areas. Late season snowfall (up to 18 inches in some locations) was also associated with the Southern system. Bluefield had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 4.08 inches. Moorefield had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.31 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 1.20 inches.

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending 03/25/18									
Station	Temperature				Precipitation				
	High	Low	Average	Weekly Departure	Week's Total	Norm	Since April 1st 2017	Same Week Last Year	Season Normal
--NORTHWEST-----									
WHEELING	55	22	33		0.33		47.67	38.49	
PARKERSBURG	64	23	37	-9	1.02	0.86	51.29	39.89	40.55
CRESTON	65	20	36		1.17		44.31	44.02	
--NORTHCENTRAL-----									
MORGANTOWN	60	22	34		0.56		48.62	48.39	
CLARKSBURG	63	22	35	-8	0.49	0.95	52.16	51.92	45.07
BELINGTON	66	17	34		0.73		51.91	50.22	
WESTON	65	19	35		0.95		56.54	58.12	
--SOUTHWEST-----									
WILLIAMSON	68	27	40		2.31		58.27	56.13	
HUNTINGTON	63	26	38	-10	0.86	0.90	47.69	45.71	41.96
CHARLESTON	65	23	37	-11	1.03	0.87	49.80	48.88	43.43
RIPLEY	65	20	36		1.17		45.47	44.94	
--CENTRAL-----									
TERRA ALTA	55	16	28		0.64		61.68	55.95	
ELKINS	63	11	31	-11	1.13	0.91	46.94	53.99	45.26
MARLINTON	59	18	33		1.58		47.79	47.91	
--SOUTHERN-----									
BECKLEY	62	20	33	-11	1.51	0.82	48.47	49.73	40.59
PINEVILLE	66	25	38		1.61		54.39	45.63	
BLUEFIELD	64	22	36	-11	4.08	0.81	51.51	44.82	39.05
WHITE SUL SP	60	19	33		1.73		39.39	43.91	
BLUESTONE DAM	64	22	36		1.92		41.81	40.34	
--NORTHEASTERN-----									
MARTINSBURG	60	24	36	-8	0.35	0.85	39.45	32.57	38.07
KEYSER	63	21	34		0.90		42.76	38.26	
MOOREFIELD	64	22	36		0.31		35.50	29.53	
State Average Temperature	35								
State Average Precipitation	1.20								